

Appl. No. : 09/913,799
Filed : December 31, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows. Insertions are shown underlined while deletions are struck through.

1 (currently amended): A drink, which comprises desalted seawater to which water-soluble mineral components are added, wherein said water-soluble mineral components are magnesium and calcium obtained from seawater, the weight ratio of magnesium to calcium (Mg/Ca) being adjusted to 4/1 to 1/3, said drink having a hardness of water of 100 to 3,000 as measured by the EDTA method.

2 (canceled)

3 (canceled)

4 (canceled)

5 (canceled)

6 (currently amended): The drink as claimed in Claim 5~~1~~, wherein the weight ratio of magnesium to calcium (Mg/Ca) is adjusted to 3/1.

7 (canceled)

8 (currently amended): The drink as claimed in Claim 7~~1~~, wherein the hardness of water is 250 or 1,000.

9 (previously presented): The drink as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising sugar or sour flavors for adjusting the taste.

10 (previously presented): The drink as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said seawater subjected to desalinization is surface water.

11 (previously presented): The drink as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said seawater subjected to desalinization is deep water.

12 (previously presented): The drink as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said seawater is deep water obtained at a depth greater than 100m.

13 (previously presented): The drink as claimed in Claim 12, wherein said seawater is deep water obtained at a depth of 200 to 500m.

14 (currently amended): A method for producing a drink, comprising the steps of:
collecting seawater;
separating the seawater into water and a concentrate by desalting; and

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adding to said separated water water-soluble mineral components obtained from said concentrate or another seawater concentrate, wherein said mineral components are magnesium and calcium, said magnesium and calcium are added to adjust the weight ratio of magnesium to calcium (Mg/Ca) to 4/1 to 1/3, and said desalination is conducted to adjust a hardness of water to 100 to 3,000 as measured by the EDTA method.

15 (previously presented): The method for producing a drink as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the seawater is deep water obtained at a depth greater than 100m.

16 (previously presented): The method for producing a drink as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the seawater is deep water obtained at a depth of 200 to 500m.

17 (canceled)

18 (canceled)

19 (currently amended): The method for producing a drink as claimed in Claim ~~18~~14, wherein the weight ratio of magnesium to calcium (Mg/Ca) is adjusted to 3/1.

20 (canceled)

21 (currently amended): The method for producing a drink as claimed in Claim ~~20~~14, wherein the hardness of water is adjusted to 250 or 1,000.

22 (previously presented): The method for producing a drink as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the seawater subjected to desalinization is surface water.